

Oregon Daily Emerald

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Polls diss Ducks

The Oregon men are ranked No. 23 in the AP poll, but are unranked in the ESPN poll; the women are No. 50 in the all-important RPI ranking. More in Oregon notes. **PAGE 7**

The Flash

Prevention the best crime-buster

The University has dealt with a rash of bicycle and car thefts over the last week, but to help protect against future crimes Office of Public Safety officials say that prevention is the best weapon. Students can use simple crime-prevention tips to check if they are really being the safest they can be. The tips, offered by Crime Prevention Officer Bob Guse, will run alongside Crimewatch weekly in the Emerald. **PAGE 4**

Oklahoma City coordinator to help Thurston

SPRINGFIELD (AP) — A Portland landscape architect who helped build a memorial honoring victims of the 1995 bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building will advise a group planning a memorial to victims of the 1998 Thurston High School shootings. Paul Morris, a 1984 University graduate, will advise a Springfield School District committee that is planning the memorial.

Morris also helped the task force that is planning a memorial to the victims of last year's shootings at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo.

Three bound for Eugene in Alaskan Airlines crash

OXNARD, Calif. (AP) — An Alaska Airlines jet carrying at least 70 people plummeted into the Pacific Ocean 20 miles northwest of the Los Angeles airport Monday after reporting mechanical problems. Three passengers were bound for Eugene, an airline official said.

Flight 261, heading from Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, to San Francisco and later to Seattle, was reported down about 3:45 p.m. It had been diverted to Los Angeles to attempt an emergency landing, the Federal Aviation Administration said.

"Right now they are searching for survivors," said Coast Guard Lt. Jeanne Reincke. Several bodies were found, Coast Guard Lt. Chuck Diorio said, but he could not give a specific number.

WEATHER

Today

Wednesday



RAIN
high 47, low 37



RAIN
high 45, low 42

Black history takes center stage

Events are staged for Black History Month, ranging from conferences to musical performances on and off campus

By Brian Goodell
Oregon Daily Emerald

February might be just another month to some people, but for others it is a chance to recognize and celebrate the important role African-Americans have played throughout history. A number of events are scheduled throughout the month on

and off campus to honor this history and its impact.

Mother Kali's Books is sponsoring a number of programs throughout the month emphasizing the important role African-Americans have played in history and popular culture. "It is important at ever opportunity to expose and af-

firm the true history of the United States," Mother Kali's co-manager Tova Stabin said. "Thus, it is important for all people to celebrate Black History Month to at least take the time to say out loud and explore the truth about the quintessential role black Americans

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Putting technology to use

Orientation Overhaul

Say goodbye to those boring orientation magazines; a new CD will now show newly admitted students the ropes at the University

By Brian Goodell
Oregon Daily Emerald

The days of the clueless freshman are numbered.

On Friday, representatives from the University and Sony Disc Manufacturing unveiled "The UO Experience," an interactive, multi-media CD-ROM designed to bring newly admitted students up-to-speed about the University. The CD features 13 virtual-reality environments, an interactive trivia game, a system of scalable maps and links to the University network. Nearly all of the production and design work was done by University students and faculty.

"We created 'The UO Experience' to produce a much-needed resource that would help engage newly admitted students in the UO environment," University Provost John Moseley said. "The CD-ROM is designed for students who have been admitted to the University."

After an initial mailing of 2,500 CDs, the Universi-

ty Office of Admissions will distribute another 500 to 1,000 copies per week during the peak period of admissions activity.

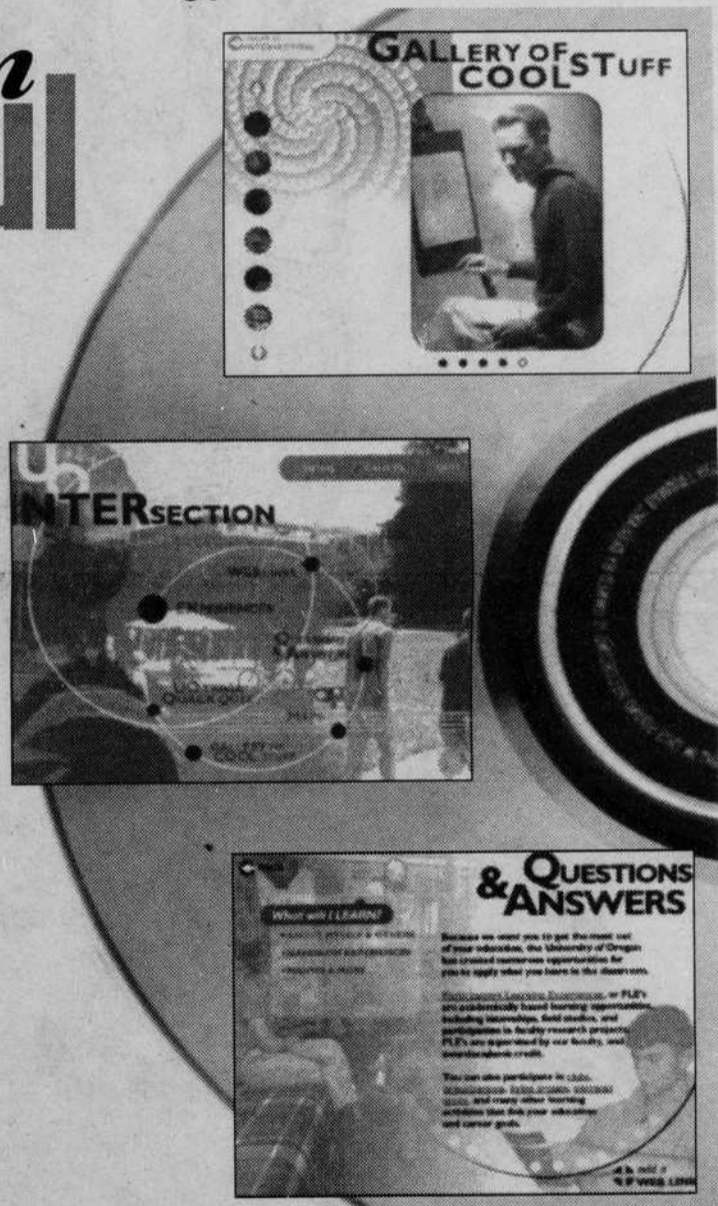
Since many incoming students are admitted to more than one institution, the admissions office saw this as an opportunity to increase the retention rate of students already admitted to the University.

"We put a great deal of effort into talking with prospective students to find out what they are really interested in and concerned about," Director of Admissions Martha Pitts said. "We put together 'The UO Experience' to address those needs."

The unveiling of the new CD came just three days after The Oregonian concluded it's three-part series "Majoring in Mediocrity." The series blasted Oregon universities for not placing enough priority on technology in education.

"It's true we're not as good as we could be, but The Oregonian article was

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The new CD-ROM for recruiting students is all part of "The UO Experience."

Series misleading, Frohnmayer says



FROHNMAYER

■ A study of the state of higher education in Oregon misrepresents the success of many schools, according to the University president

By Ben Romano
Oregon Daily Emerald

An Oregonian series criticizing the condition of higher education in Oregon has sent shockwaves through the Oregon University System.

University President Dave Frohnmayer called the title of the report, "Majoring in Mediocrity," grotesquely unfair. It is "really a kind of blame-the-victim syndrome."

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Despite resolutions, diversity still concern

■ A bias response team was created to deal with student concerns about discrimination, and a Web site about diversity is in the works

By Simone Ripke
Oregon Daily Emerald

Despite recent efforts of diversity interns to make the University more conducive to diversity, some ethnic students groups feel that problems are far from being solved.

Seven months after 10 diversity interns were hired in response to a May 18 Johnson Hall sit-in sparked by a racial response in a class e-mail discussion, a diversity

Turn to **Diversity**, page 6

This is the second of a three-part series exploring diversity on campus.

Monday: Retaining a diverse faculty

Today: Diversity interns' efforts with student groups

Wednesday: Johnson Hall protester update